

The Wichita Eagle.

M. M. MURDOCK, EDITOR.
WICHITA, KANSAS, DEC. 18, 1901.

CRACKING THE SKEL.

The Winfield Monitor unceremoniously expresses the feelings of Mr. Conklin, its editor, at length on the State Printer question. The Commonwealth, after copying the whole article, which is too long for our column, intimates that we have the floor. The Monitor says:

"The endorsement of Mr. Thacher by such papers as the Atchison Champion, Wichita Eagle, and that class of newspapers, would lead a stranger in Kansas to conclude that the aforesaid candidate was the brainiest man in the State, and when his services for the party are set forth, and his abilities vehemently ascertained by his sponsors, we are amazed that such words should so long have been unwarmed.

There is today in Kansas a few editors who long since formed themselves into a mutual admiration and self-congratulatory society, and Dwight belongs to that society. Mr. J. A. Martin wanted to be Governor, Dwight blew his horn while Marsh sought the timber; and when Marsh wanted to be United States Senator, a position, by the way, that he could fill with as much credit to himself and State as some of those who have been, John Pined and Dwight blowed; and now it comes the latter's turn, whereupon he puffs himself at the moon, they all sit down on their tails and howl for him."

A Teuton at his first Irish wake, a Dragoon wooing the inspiration of a Methodist hymn, would be no more lost to the import and purpose of their surroundings, no more muddled over the formalized action expressed in such products than the average newspaperman of Kansas seeking in understanding a matter which is plain as the nose on a man's face. John A. Martin, Ben Simpson, Geo. W. Martin, P. B. Plumb, T. Dwight Thacher, John J. Ingalls and F. P. Baker, gentlemen all, entered with Mr. Conklin's coconut milk, were all pioneers and all newspaper writers. It strikes us that but a slight understanding of the private and public life of these men, and the few others belonging to the same class, whom we could name, would prove an all-sufficient answer to the charge of "mutual admiration society." In mentioning our preference for Mr. Thacher as the next State Printer no reflection on George Martin or Floyd P. Baker was intended. We simply concluded, taking into the account the whole matter of worth and reward, of past labors and encomiums, that Mr. Thacher's present claim upon his party was stronger than that of any other gentleman named.

It is but natural to rejoice in the good fortune of those with whom one has suffered, and but right to reward recognized merit. Twenty-five years have passed pretty firmly together those who, as young men, took their lives in their hands and became the conductors of "John Brown in Kansas."

"A fellow feeling makes us wondrous kind." There is no "mutual admiration society" about the matter, only a simple appreciation of the eternal fitness of things. We admit all that Mr. Conklin claims in behalf of F. P. Baker and his Commonwealth, and heartily endorse all his praise of George Martin, and the present incumbent—of course we do—because we think it would not only be poetic justice and political wisdom, but party profit to elect T. Dwight Thacher as State Printer. Baker has one of the best things in the State, George Martin has for years enjoyed many of the best things the party has had to offer, and we only asked the privilege of supporting a man equally deserving who has never had any.

WELL, WHAT OF IT?
None of the Champions, Eagles and other buzzes of the Kansas press have yet discovered that Secretary Schurz has made a report—Caldwell's Commonwealth.
Well, what of it? When did that gentleman make a report, and what was it about? If the Commonwealth alludes to the spectacle of a man equally deserving who has never had any, it is simply a question of enlightenment.

General Grant was well received by both houses of Congress last Thursday, each taking a recess of ten minutes in his honor. A few northern Democrats stood back a little, but their dignity did not join in the general handshaking.

In the Senate, Thursday, December 16, a bill was introduced to place General Grant on the retired list, to provide for the sale of a part of the Omaha Indian reservation; a petition for woman suffrage in the Territories; and debate on the educational bill followed. The House agreed to a conference resolution to adjourn from December 22 to January 10, and passed the pension appropriation bill.

There was a long discussion in the Senate upon a bill to set apart a portion of the proceeds of the sale of public land for educational purposes, but no such attention was attracted as by the reports of Senator Brown, of Georgia, on the previous day, whose statesmanlike views, so destitute of partisanship, will be regarded by the country as a good model for its free-thinking colleagues generally.

FRATERNITY FOR THE BARGE'S PLUMBER.

The capitalists of Kansas City have organized a large force for the Missouri river and the capital stock is \$200,000. One tow boat and six barges have already been purchased, and another tow-boat and the necessary barges are ordered. The barge is proposed to start the line so soon as navigation shall open, and the freighting by the Missouri to continue therefrom without interruption.

Three negroes were sold at public auction at Liberty, Virginia, Monday, under an old vagrant. They were knocked down at \$4 each, which shows that the emancipation proclamation has detracted from their market value in the South, if it has done nothing else.

Mr. Myers, a Democratic Congressman from Indiana, is curious about Gen. Grant's finances. He has asked a detailed statement of all the money paid by the government to the ex-President from the time he entered the West Point Military Academy down to the day on which he retired from the White House.

Lord Beaconsfield's visit to Windsor Castle is a fruitful theme for conjecture in England. The popular interpretation is that the Queen is ready to send for the ex-Premier, and so soon as she shall have succeeded in bringing about the overthrow of the Gladstone ministry.

The New York Times states a fact very simply and to the point: "The alternative to the perpetration of the National bank system as now is, a return to some more or less guarded scheme of State bank issues, or else the expansion and permanence of Government paper."

If we may believe a philosopher who writes in the New York Sun, a spot on the sun is now visible to the unaided eye—a little to the right of and below the center of the sun's disk. By the aid of smoked or colored glass, or better still, an opera glass, the spot may be readily seen.

Representative McGold, of Iowa, introduced in the House a bill to regulate commerce by railroad between States. It provides, among other things, for arbitrary schedules of rates for the transportation of freight and passengers, and prohibits, under penalty, all combinations or pools to defeat competition, rebates, discriminations, or failures to furnish facilities to other interested or connecting roads.

While Charles Foster was visiting General Garfield, at Mentor, one of the clergy, early headed signs of Garfield took up a piece of chalk and wrote "329" all over the house, against the porch, the gable of the barn, and the fence. Garfield looked grimly at the performance, turned to Foster and said: "Charles! do you ever see the ingratitude of some exemplified like that?"

Advices from Mexico report an unwholesome condition of affairs in that republic. President Porfirio Diaz is unpopular. His administration, which occurred recently, was witnessed with extreme indifference by the people, while ex-President Diaz was loudly cheered when he left the palace after delivering the executive department to his successor. Several of the journals complain of the conspicuous attentions shown to the French Minister. They say that neither the United States Minister at Mexico nor the Mexican Minister at Paris has received such diplomatic treatment.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Evening Post says: "I am told, and on good authority, that Jay Gould is planning to get control of the New York Associated Press. He owns the Express, the World and the Tribune; and is negotiating for either the Journal of Commerce or the Commercial Bulletin. He has been bought out by Mr. Robert S. Roberts, 25 shares in the Express, at \$4,200. There are 275 shares, I believe, in all, the par value being \$1,000 each. The control of four franchises gives him control of the Associated Press."

FOR OTHER CLERK.

For the position of Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, Wirt W. Walton has no opposition. It is well. Few men have the tact, readiness and voice for such a position. Mr. Walton already rivals in these qualities Judge Morton and Alexander Banks, two exceptionally fine clerks who have preceded him. The dispatch of business depends almost entirely upon the chief clerk as upon the speaker. Walton is cool headed, quick, understands parliamentary law, and above all is a thorough reader.

PLACES PASTORALIZES.
There seems to be quite an excitement in the Arkansas Valley over the success of A. J. Buckland, on the Republican State Central Committee. Why any one should want a position that is neither important, interesting, amusing or lucrative, is the pressing conundrum of the hour.—Atchison Champion.

The Arkansas Valley is evidently a bigger place than you count on. It was won through three States and one Territory and you would contribute to the comfort of our feelings if, when you have occasion to allude to it in any particular, you would give some heed to location. We hope, we believe, in fact we know that the people of this particular portion of the valley have more sense than to not even give so much as a second thought to such a position.

A LITTLE LADY.
A New York paper in speaking of Gov. St. John and the amendment declares that so great is the veneration and love for the man by Kansas people that the women burst into tears at the mere mention of his name. We can't answer for a few gawking men and leaky old maids, but in a general way the assertion is true. The Commonwealth's world of Sunday contains a piece of poetry on the Governor which detracts from denying the assertion of the New York paper in toto. The first verse reads and all the balance is as follows: "God bless the man who stands erect, The people's own, the Lord's elect, Who led us victory glides' westward, And freed this lovely Western land."

VOX POPULI VOX DEI.
The Wichita Eagle will awake, some fine morning, to the fact that it is neither the government nor the people.—Caldwell's Commonwealth.

That would be a sad old awakening, but we guess it lies beyond the province of possible happenings. What would we want to read Schurz's report for when we already know about the matter that he does? What does Schurz know of Payne, and Blount, and Jackson, and Hutchison? Nothing, absolutely nothing, except what Dick Walker tells him. Judge Campbell's and Governor's letters may make lively Sunday reading for the border, but they would prove pretty solid matter for a U. S. Grand Jury.

THE RAILROAD QUESTION.
There is one thing to be remarked in connection with the proposition for legislative regulation of railroads: It is a question of whose ox is gored. When the railroads are so operated as to the benefit New York City, the metropolis is entirely ready and satisfied, and cannot disguise its disgust for the complaints of Wisconsin, Iowa and Illinois grangers. But when the railroads favor the West by receiving freight for shipment to Liverpool on through bills, or bringing foreign goods to the West on through shipments, which leave no toll in New York, then the metropolis thinks it time their railroads should be regulated.

Some of our upriver neighbors are inclined to regard the Journal's prediction that Kansas will have 100,000 inhabitants in 1922 as somewhat visionary.—K. C. Journal.

In a conversation with several prominent gentlemen last winter in Washington, we were laughed at for expressing the opinion that by 1900 or 20 years Kansas City would lead St. Louis in population and wealth, and next to Chicago, would be the largest inter-sea city on the continent. We have entertained that opinion for ten years and as yet see no reason for changing it.

SILVER AND FRACTIONAL CURRENCY.
Senator Ingalls says that he is alive to the needs and wishes of the people by his announcement that he shall press a measure for the resumption of fractional currency. The disappearance of this currency has been felt as a serious inconvenience throughout the country, and there are thousands of people who will feel indebted to the Senator from Kansas who has been the first to officially recognize this inconvenience and take steps to relieve it.—Inter-Ocean.

ENLARGED.

The Topeka Daily Commonwealth commences this week in an enlarged form—out as a whole column—out as one of the largest daily papers in the west, containing full accounts of news and market reports and the news of the State and its affairs as gathered at the capital. Whatever the fate of other Kansas dailies, a successful future for the Commonwealth is assured. It has the franchise, the circulation and the patronage that are bound to make it a valuable property and a leading paper. The Commonwealth reaches this section of the State eleven hours in advance of all other dailies, which enhances its value to our people.

PAINTMAN'S NEW BOSS.
Allen Campbell, Kelly's successor as comptroller of New York, is about 40 years of age, and is an old New Yorker. He is one of the leading engineers of the State, and has been connected with such great works as the Fourth avenue improvement. He was formerly president of the Harlem Railroad Company, and was chief engineer for that corporation for years, and has filled other important positions of private trust. He is in any particular, a competent commissioner of public works by Mayor Wickham for four years on January 15, 1902, to succeed Gen. Fitz John Porter. The history of his connection with the comptroller Kelly during his term of office, and of his active opposition to the dictatorial rule of the Tammany leader, need not be told. As commissioner of Public Works, he has been generally regarded as an efficient and honest officer.

Judge W. P. Campbell occupies the bench at Winfield this week for the last time in this district—this term. Judge Campbell is a man of ability. We admire him for his independence. People may say what they please, but he has made a good judge. He is liable to make mistakes as all other men are, but in our opinion they have been few. He will at once engage in the practice of his profession, but he has made a good judge. He is satisfied he will gain a good practice. He will live at Winfield, and will attend to all business before the court in this county before he will be intrusted to his home. We wish him success.—Daily Enterprise.

GOLD AND THE TRISOL LINE.
C. W. Rogers, General Manager of the St. Louis and San Francisco road, left for New York yesterday morning. It is believed that he went for the purpose of protecting the Vinita outfit of his company. Since Gould has gained control of the M. & K. T. R., the probability is that he will try to shut the outfit out of Texas via Vinita, as he does not care to nurse a competitor. The "Prize" is a popular line, and it is to be hoped that Gould will treat it with consideration. —Globe-Democrat.

BURLINGTON AND WINSTON-SALEM. A LAMP.
The exact manner in which the ends have been outlined in this column, two weeks ago, will be accomplished, are not yet fully determined upon, and we may, therefore, be excused from giving too definite details, but we cannot put on record here four guesses rather than promises. Barring any financial disaster, we guess:

First—That the directors of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad company will declare, within thirty days, a stock dividend of not less than 60 per cent.

Second—That upon this increased capital stock the quarterly dividend will be 10 or 12 per cent, instead of 6 per cent as at present.

Third—That the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad company will, before July 1 next, declare a considerable stock or income dividend.

Fourth—That within the year 1902 the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy and the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad companies will be merged into one company, and the new company will be practically consolidated by lease or purchase.

Speaking of President Hayes's recommendation about General Grant, the New York Tribune says: "No one would deny that such an act would be hailed by the American people as a proper proof of gratitude to the greatest soldier of our history. We believe it would have the hearty approval of the great majority of patriotic citizens of both parties, and it ought to get the support of both parties in Congress. The only reason why it has not been adopted is that it is not popular with the few who are interested in the money market."

SANTA CLAUS.

First Advertisement.
Here I am Again,
Crowned With Bargains!

J. E. CALDWELL'S
CHINA HALL.
32 Main St.

Do not be Deceived. You can get Better Bargains at this Establishment than any place this side of Kansas City.

English Decorated Dinner Sets, in all styles and prices.
English Decorated Tea Sets, in all styles and prices.
Faint Cut Glassware, suitable for Crystal Wedding Presents.
Decorated Chamber Sets, in all styles and prices. Have just received a large variety.

English Decorated China Decorated Tea Sets.
English Decorated China Decorated Fruit Sets.
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HOME STRETCH.

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Last and Largest Sale ever known in Wichita
This is our last month in Wichita, and we do not wish to ship one dollar's worth of goods away from here, consequently many of our goods will be sold far below their actual cost. We have still a large stock of

Boots and Shoes
Which will be sold for less money than any Merchant in the West has Bought Them!

Thos. Peg Shoes, former price \$1.50, now 75c.
Thos. Seared Shoes, former price \$1.50, now \$1.00.
Men's Good Work Shoes, former price \$2.00, now \$1.50.
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